

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6543

BILL NUMBER: HB 1070

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 19, 2004

BILL AMENDED: Jan 29, 2004

SUBJECT: Center for Agricultural Science and Heritage.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Bischoff

FIRST SPONSOR: Sen. Weatherwax

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 2nd House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill changes the Center for Agricultural Science and Heritage to a corporate body separate from the state. The bill specifies that the center's assets, appropriations, fund balances, and liabilities are not affected by the conversion. It specifies that the members of the Center's board of trustees remain trustees. The bill establishes certain personnel policies.

Effective Date: July 1, 2004.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Center for Agricultural Science and Heritage (the Barn):* Changing the status of the Barn to a corporate body is not expected to have a significant fiscal impact on the state or the Barn. The Barn reports that the change in status could provide the Center with administrative efficiencies and facilitate its current and pending linkages with the State Fair Commission, another corporate body.

The bill specifies that all assets, appropriations, fund balances, and liabilities of the Barn are not affected by the change in the Barn's status.

Operational funding for the Barn currently is provided with funds raised through its associated nonprofit entity. Since its inception, the Barn has not received a state appropriation for its operational costs. While Barn employees may continue to participate in the state's health and retirement benefit systems, all costs are, and will continue to be, borne by the Barn. Recently, the Barn and the State Fair Commission entered a service agreement with the Barn to fund services related to agricultural education, tourism, and business development from January 1, 2003, to June 30, 2004. (At present, the agreement is being reviewed by the Attorney General's Office.)

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Center for Agricultural Science and Heritage.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Keith Beesley, Department of State Personnel, 317-232-3062; Betsy Jones, Executive Director, Center for Agricultural Science and Heritage, 317-925-2410.

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